



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

MAILED

MILLER PATENT SERVICES
2500 DOCKERY LANE
RALEIGH NC 27606

SEP 21 2010

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,336,787
Issued: February 26, 2008
Application No. 10/038,217
Filed: January 2, 2002
Attorney Docket No.: SNY-R4646.01

:DECISION ON REQUEST
: FOR RECONSIDERATION
: OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT
: AND
: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE
: CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

This is a decision on the "PETITION TO CORRECT PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT," filed February 16, 2010, requesting suspension of the time limit for consideration of an application for patent term adjustment ("PTA"). The response is properly treated as a request for reconsideration of petition under 37 CFR 1.183.

This petition is hereby **DISMISSED**.

The petition for recalculation/reconsideration of the USPTO's PTA determination for U.S. Patent No. 7,336,787 is dismissed as untimely. On February 1, 2010, the USPTO published a Federal Register notice that, *inter alia*, announced a limited waiver of the two-month deadline for filing a petition for reconsideration of a PTA determination under 37 CFR sec. 1.705(d). See *Interim Procedure for Patentees to Request a Recalculation of the Patent Term Adjustment to Comply with the Federal Circuit Decision in Wyeth v. Kappos Regarding Overlapping Delay Provisions of 35 U.S.C. sec. 154(b)(2)(A)*, 75 Fed. Reg. 5043 (Feb. 1, 2010) (notice).

Specifically, patent owners were permitted to request recalculation of a patent's PTA in view of the Federal Circuit decision *Wyeth v. Kappos*, 591 F.3d 1364 (Fed. Cir. 2010) up to 180 days after the grant of the patent. The USPTO determined not to accept any requests for PTA recalculation initially filed more than 180 days after patent grant, however, in view of the statutory judicial-review provisions of 35 U.S.C. sec. 154(b)(4), which require that any civil action to challenge the USPTO's PTA determination be brought within 180 days of patent grant. The USPTO believes that the statutory 180-day period for seeking court review of the USPTO's PTA determinations, particularly in view of the six-year statute of limitations that otherwise is applicable for actions under the Administrative Procedure Act, indicates a congressional intent that PTA issues be resolved shortly after a patent issues. The USPTO does not consider it likely that Congress created a scheme under which the time period to seek initial USPTO review

of a PTA determination extends beyond the time period provided for a dissatisfied patentee to seek judicial review of the USPTO's PTA determination. Thus, the USPTO believes that the 180-day period in 35 U.S.C. sec. 154(b)(4) represents the outer limit on the USPTO's ability to conclude its PTA determination.

Instead of a patent term adjustment petition, applicants filed a "Request for Certificate of Correction" to correct the patent term. The request filed April 7, 2008 cannot be construed as a petition under 37 CFR 1.705(d) and the instant petition requesting a corrected patent term adjustment is not timely filed. As such, the petition is dismissed and the certificate of correction which issued February 2, 2010 was issued in error. In view thereof, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1142 days.

The Office will sua sponte issue a certificate of correction. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.322, the Office will not issue a certificate of correction without first providing assignee or patentee an opportunity to be heard. Accordingly, patentee is given one (1) month or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this decision to respond. No extensions of time will be granted under § 1.136.

The application is being forwarded to the Certificates of Branch for issuance of a certificate of correction. The Office will issue a certificate of correction indicating that the term of the above-identified patent is extended or adjusted by **one thousand one hundred forty-two (1142) days**.

Telephone inquiries specific to this decision should be directed to Senior Petitions Attorney Patricia Faison-Ball at (571) 272-3212.



Anthony Knight
Director
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: Copy of DRAFT Certificate of Correction

DRAFT
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT : 7,336,787 B2

DATED : February 26, 2008

INVENTOR(S) : Robert Allan Unger

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

On the cover page,

[*] Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 USC 154(b) by (1189) days

Delete the phrase "by 1189 days" and insert -- by 1142 days--